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**From:** Flowers, Lynn  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2015 10:13 AM  
**To:** Vandenberg, John  
**Subject:** RE: GMOs, Herbicides, and Public Health - Landrigan & Benbrook - YES!

Wow. Thanks for sharing.

Lynn Flowers, PhD, DABT  
Associate Director for Health  
National Center for Environmental Assessment  
US EPA  
Washington, DC  
703-347-8537

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**From:** Vandenberg, John  
**Sent:** Thursday, August 20, 2015 9:56 AM  
**To:** Flowers, Lynn; Ross, Mary; Birchfield, Norman; D'Amico, Louis  
**Subject:** Fwd: GMOs, Herbicides, and Public Health - Landrigan & Benbrook - YES!

FYI

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** Kathy Burns <[kmb@sciencecorps.org](mailto:kmb@sciencecorps.org)>  
**Date:** August 19, 2015 at 10:07:59 PM EDT  
**To:** "'Huff, James (NIH/NIEHS) [G]'" <[huff1@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:huff1@niehs.nih.gov)>, 'Po Chan' (b) (6) @ (b) (6) 'joe ladou' (b) (6) @ (b) (6) "'jennifer sass [NRDC]'" <[jsass@nrdc.org](mailto:jsass@nrdc.org)>, 'peter infante' (b) (6) >, "'barry castleman'" (b) (6) Ron Melnick <[melnickr@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:melnickr@niehs.nih.gov)>, <[olden.kenneth@epa.gov](mailto:olden.kenneth@epa.gov)>  
**Cc:** Phil Landrigan <[phil.landrigan@mssm.edu](mailto:phil.landrigan@mssm.edu)>, 'John Vandenberg' <[vandenberg.john@epa.gov](mailto:vandenberg.john@epa.gov)>, "McCarthy. gina@Epa. gov" <[McCarthy.gina@Epa.gov](mailto:McCarthy.gina@Epa.gov)>, 'Dorothy Wigmore' <[WigmoreD@upstate.edu](mailto:WigmoreD@upstate.edu)>  
**Subject:** GMOs, Herbicides, and Public Health - Landrigan & Benbrook - YES!

Regarding Huff's message below -

Charles Benbrook (Landrigan's co-author on the recent pesticide article) worked on pesticides in Congress in the 1980s and was the author of the "Benbrook Report", a three volume series on the Congressional exposing the concealment of toxicity data and other violations of public trust by EPA and pesticide manufacturers.

The toxicology data that the industry was required to submit, including information on the ability of many pesticides to cause birth defects and many other serious health effects, was kept secret by EPA. Litigation caused it to be released (thanks to NRDC and others) in the early 1980s. Benbrook and a terrific California Senator helped me obtain the data. We summarized it in a book called Pesticides and Human Health (Springer-Verlag Press) and hoped it would result in health protective policies.

Benbrook was treated badly in Washington and ultimately went elsewhere, still fighting the good fight. Our book largely fell on deaf ears in the US, though it was used extensively in Europe. The pesticide office at EPA continued on its merry way, covering up the majority of damning evidence on hazardous pesticides and ignoring most birth defects using various excuses. Good people within EPA tried to leverage change, using evaluations carried out by other offices (e.g., the policy office) to force changes, but they were largely unsuccessful.

I'm incredibly grateful that Benbrook is still fighting on this front. It is very discouraging work. But since most of us are exposed to pesticides in our food and many people deal with them every day in their water and air, it's worth whatever we can put into this work.

GMO is just the latest twist on a long legacy hazards. Meanwhile, OPP tries to assure us that the re-introduction of arsenic as a pesticide and the use of chlorpyrifos and other health hazards are safe "when use as directed". Their actions have had tragic consequences. We should support any and all efforts to have full and honest science made available to the public and those tasked with protecting them.

Obviously a sea change at OPP is an essential first step. I hope that ORD, the only part of EPA with the scientific credentials to tackle this, will take on this very long-standing problem. The truth is that we have sufficient evidence on arsenic and many other pesticides to prevent them from harming more people. What we lack is an agency with the will to act on what is and has been known for many years. We need to support them in efforts to tackle this problem.

The ball is in their court. After so many decades of agricultural workers becoming sick and dying far too early and children unnecessarily doomed to lives less than fully realized, I hope that EPA will choose the difficult but honorable path.

Regards,  
Kathleen Burns, Ph.D.

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**From:** Huff, James (NIH/NIEHS) [G] [<mailto:huff1@niehs.nih.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, August 19, 2015 8:55 PM  
**To:** Po Chan <(b) (6) <(b) (6)>>; morando soffritti <[soffrittim@ramazzini.it](mailto:soffrittim@ramazzini.it)>; fiorella belpoggi <[belpoggif@ramazzini.it](mailto:belpoggif@ramazzini.it)>; joe ladou <(b) (6)>; jennifer sass [NRDC] <[jsass@nrdc.org](mailto:jsass@nrdc.org)>; peter infante <(b) (6)>; barry castleman <(b) (6)>; kathy burns <[kmb@sciencecorps.org](mailto:kmb@sciencecorps.org)>  
**Subject:** GMOs, Herbicides, and Public Health -- P.J. Landrigan and C. Benbrook | N Engl J Med --

FYI - sent this note to John Bucher and Linda Birnbaum.

Po — wonder if back then you recommended a long term carcinogenesis study? I remember in late 1980s you and I worked hard to propose a long-term study on Arsenic Trioxide but was out voted by NTP.

Best, james

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**From:** James Huff <[huff1@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:huff1@niehs.nih.gov)>

**Date:** Wednesday, August 19, 2015 at 8:48 PM

**To:** john bucher <[bucher@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:bucher@niehs.nih.gov)>, "Birnbaum, Linda (NIH/NIEHS) [E]" <[birnbaum@niehs.nih.gov](mailto:birnbaum@niehs.nih.gov)>

**Subject:** GMOs, Herbicides, and Public Health -- P.J. Landrigan and C. Benbrook | N Engl J Med --

Hi

Just came out today. U must have seen it earlier. Re comments below re what NTP 'should' do, might be good idea to write letter to NEJM stating what NTP has, is, and will/not do re Glyphosate. I recall Po Chan/Joel Mahler did a toxicology study back in 1992\*\* [attached]. Over the years I urged [unsuccessfully] that NTP Tox Study Reports mention/explain what NTP is doing or plans to do on the same chemical in these Tox Reports. I don't recall/know whether NTP has or is doing anything further. Nothing additional appears to be done or planned, according to <http://ntp.niehs.nih.gov/testing/status/agents/ts-m88067.html>. Just think if NTP had done an in utero/+30 month carcinogenesis exposure study after the 90-day that would have been done and reported in later 1990s.

j

GMOs, Herbicides, and Public Health

P.J. Landrigan and C. Benbrook | N Engl J Med 2015;373:693-695

"First, we believe the EPA should delay implementation of its decision to permit use of Enlist Duo. This decision was made in haste. Second, the National Toxicology Program should urgently assess the toxicology of pure glyphosate, formulated glyphosate, and mixtures of glyphosate and other herbicides."

[https://www.nejm.org/action/doSecureKeyLogin?uuid=6418306&dateTime=201508290000&key=m\\_g2gckWqf7ESM2n%2Bxz2z23SpPO7pbPCyQvoFGYtQAuM%3D&uri=/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1505660?query=TOC](https://www.nejm.org/action/doSecureKeyLogin?uuid=6418306&dateTime=201508290000&key=m_g2gckWqf7ESM2n%2Bxz2z23SpPO7pbPCyQvoFGYtQAuM%3D&uri=/doi/full/10.1056/NEJMp1505660?query=TOC)

\*\*[Toxic Rep Ser.](#) 1992 Jul;16:1-D3. NTP technical report on the toxicity studies of Glyphosate (CAS No. 1071-83-6) Administered In Dosed Feed To F344/N Rats And B6C3F1 Mice. [Chan P](#), [Mahler J](#). <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/12209170>

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